

Media Contact:

Tina Pelkey, (202) 418-0536 tina.pelkey@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

CHAIRMAN PAI PROVIDES UPDATE ON TROPICAL STORM HARVEY

WASHINGTON, August 28, 2017—Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai released the following statement regarding Tropical Storm Harvey:

"Over the last three days, the Federal Communications Commission has been working in close coordination with the Department of Homeland Security to monitor the status of communications networks in the areas affected by Tropical Storm Harvey and to support relief and restoration efforts. Here's an update on where things stand.

"To date, the storm has most severely impacted communications networks near where Harvey made landfall. In Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio Counties, for instance, most wireless cell sites are currently out of operation. We are also keeping close tabs on the effect that widespread flooding could have on communications networks in Harris County and surrounding areas in the hours and days to come.

"Today, I have talked with FCC public safety and enforcement staff, including field agents who have been traveling throughout the storm zone, to thank them for their efforts. I am also speaking with representatives from network operators in the affected areas to get first-hand assessments of the situation and make clear that the FCC stands ready to help however we can.

"The worst of tragedies brings out the best in people. In Harvey's wake, first responders and everyday citizens have heroically stepped up to the plate to help their fellow Americans. Broadcasters and other news outlets have also played a critical role in conveying emergency information, and in some cases, even coordinating live, on-air rescues. Everyone who is pitching in deserves our gratitude and support. We're all in this together."

For more information, please visit www.fcc.gov/harvev.

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Office of Chairman Ajit Pai: (202) 418-2000 Twitter: @AjitPaiFCC www.fcc.gov/leadership/ajit-pai

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).